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General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 17

Macroeconomic policy questions

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled:

"Macroeconomic policy questions:

"(a) International trade and development;

"(b) International financial system and development;

"(c) External debt sustainability and development

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 17th and 18th meetings, on 20 and 21 October, and took action on the item at its 23rd and 28th meetings, on 2 November and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 3 and 4 October 2016.[2] An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is provided in the addenda to the present report.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbols A/71/461, A/71/461/Add.1, A/71/461/Add.2 and A/71/461/Add.3.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.17, A/C.2/71/SR.18, A/C.2/71/SR.23 and A/C.2/71/SR/28.

[2] See A/C.2/71/SR.2, A/C.2/71/SR.3, A/C.2/71/SR.4 and A/C.2/71/SR.5.

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3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

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Macroeconomic policy questions

Letter dated 19 August 2016 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Mauritania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/366-S/2016/723)

Letter dated 29 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the fortieth annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 23 September 2016 (A/71/422)

Letter dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 24 September 2016 (A/71/539)

Letter dated 10 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/612)

Item 17 (a)
International trade and development

Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development (A/71/275)

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-second executive session, Geneva, 25 and 26 January 2016 (A/71/15 (Part I))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirtieth special session, Geneva, 13 June 2016 (A/71/15 (Part II))

Note by the Secretary-General on the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its fourteenth session (A/71/561)

Item 17 (b)
International financial system and development

Report of the Secretary-General on the international financial system and development (A/71/312)

Letter dated 25 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/221)

Item 17 (c)
External debt sustainability and development

Report of the Secretary-General on external debt sustainability and development (A/71/276)

4. At its 17th meeting, on 20 October, the Committee heard a recorded message from the President of the Trade and Development Board (under sub-item (a)), after

which introductory statements were made by the Director of the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (b)); the Head of the Trade Negotiations and Commercial Diplomacy Branch of the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under sub-item (a)); and the Head of the Debt and Development Finance Branch of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under sub-item (c)).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.31 and A/C.2/71/L.54

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Promotion of international cooperation to curb and recover illicit financial flows" (A/C.2/71/L.31).

6. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development" (A/C.2/71/L.54), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Arthur Andambi (Kenya), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.31.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.54 had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Kenya) made a statement, in the course of which he orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.54.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.54 as orally corrected (see para. 12).

10. Also at the 28th meeting, statements were made after the adoption of the draft resolution by the representatives of the United States of America, Nigeria and South Africa.

11. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.54, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.31 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

12. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reiterating its deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion and corruption, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[1] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation, including full support for the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and other relevant international forums to strengthen cooperation in combating illicit financial flows, particularly those caused by tax evasion and corruption,

Noting the report of the High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa, and inviting other regions to carry out similar exercises,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Recognizing the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Group of 20 Hangzhou Summit communiqué,[2] and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that Group of 20 initiatives complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

1. *Welcomes* the inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[3] of, inter alia, the target related to combating illicit financial flows, recalls that the Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard looks forward to their achievement;

2. *Also welcomes* the inclusion in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[4] of actions intended to combat illicit financial flows, and in this regard looks forward to their implementation;

3. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption[1] and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[5] and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to illicit financial flows in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the follow-up process of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

6. *Looks forward* to the inclusion, in the 2017 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, of an analysis of the theme of the present resolution, pursuant to the Task Force's mandate, and also looks forward to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development", unless otherwise agreed.

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[2] A/71/380, annex.
[3] Resolution 70/1.
[4] Resolution 69/313.
[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 17 (a)

Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 17 (see A/71/461, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 23rd and 28th meetings, on 2 November and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.29 and A/C.2/71/L.57

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International trade and development" (A/C.2/71/L.29).

3. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International trade and development" (A/C.2/71/L.57), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Arthur Andambi (Kenya), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.29.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.57 had no programme budget implications.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbols A/71/461, A/71/461/Add.1, A/71/461/Add.2 and A/71/461/Add.3.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.23 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator (Islamic Republic of Iran) made a statement, in the course of which he orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.57.

6. Also at its 28th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.57, as orally corrected (see para. 9).

7. At the same meeting, a statement after the adoption of the draft resolution was made by the representative of the United States of America.

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.57, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.29 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 63/203 of 19 December 2008, 66/185 of 22 December 2011, 67/196 of 21 December 2012, 68/199 of 20 December 2013, 69/205 of 19 December 2014 and 70/187 of 22 December 2015,

Taking note of its resolutions 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005, 61/186 of 20 December 2006, 62/184 of 19 December 2007, 64/188 of 21 December 2009 and 65/142 of 20 December 2010,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recognizing that international trade is an engine for economic growth and poverty reduction, that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development and that it is recognized as one of the action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and one of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Recognizing also the critical role of women as producers and traders, and the need to address their specific challenges in order to facilitate women's equal and active participation in domestic, regional and international trade,

Recognizing further the major role that Aid for Trade can play, and the need to focus on Aid for Trade in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries,

Recognizing that, notwithstanding the opportunities brought by globalization, major challenges still remain to be addressed through multilateralism,

Noting that challenges regarding the balance of the global economic system remain, as well as socioeconomic gaps both between countries and within them, and that the gains from globalization, while reducing extreme poverty by half, have been unevenly distributed, giving rise to extreme global inequality over the past 30 years, and acknowledging that growth has also been uneven, intermittent and often unsustainable, punctuated by damaging financial shocks and crises, and that many nations and peoples are still left behind,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development[1] and the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Recognizes* that Member States will not be able to achieve the ambitious Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development[3] without a revitalized and enhanced global partnership and a comparably ambitious means of implementation, and that a revitalized global partnership will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of implementation of all the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources;

3. *Reaffirms* the commitments made through the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[4] in, inter alia, international trade as an important action area for sustainable development;

4. *Also reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for inclusive growth and poverty reduction, that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development and that the General Assembly will continue to promote a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, as well as meaningful trade liberalization;

5. *Recognizes* that, at the tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015, and as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, many members of the World Trade Organization reaffirmed the Doha Development Agenda and the declarations and decisions adopted at Doha and at the Ministerial Conferences held since then, and also reaffirmed their full commitment to conclude the Doha Development Agenda on that basis, while other members did not reaffirm the Doha mandates as they believe that new approaches are necessary to achieve meaningful outcomes in multilateral

[1] A/71/15 (Parts I-IV).
[2] A/71/275.
[3] Resolution 70/1.
[4] Resolution 69/313, annex.

negotiations, and that members of the World Trade Organization have different views on how to address the negotiations and acknowledge its strong legal structure;

6. *Also recognizes* that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, there remains a strong commitment on the part of all members of the World Trade Organization to advance negotiations on the remaining Doha issues, including advancing work in all three pillars of agriculture, namely, domestic support, market access and export competition, as well as non-agricultural market access, services, development, the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) and the rules of the World Trade Organization, and that the work on all the decisions adopted in part II of the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration will remain an important element of the future agenda of the World Trade Organization;

7. *Further recognizes* that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, the work of the World Trade Organization shall maintain development at its centre, that provisions for special and differential treatment shall remain integral to that work, that the members of the World Trade Organization shall also continue to give priority to the concerns and interests of the least developed countries and that many members of the World Trade Organization want to carry out that work on the basis of the Doha structure, while some want to explore new architectures;

8. *Recognizes* that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, while members of the World Trade Organization concur that officials should prioritize the work of the World Trade Organization where results have not yet been achieved, some wish to identify and discuss other issues for negotiation, and others do not, and that any decision to launch negotiations multilaterally on such issues would need to be agreed upon by all members of the World Trade Organization;

9. *Welcomes* the decisions and the Declaration listed in parts I and II of the Bali Ministerial Declaration of the World Trade Organization and the subsequent decision of 27 November 2014 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization on public stockholding for food security purposes;

10. *Emphasizes* that accession to the World Trade Organization remains an integral part of the development strategies of most countries aiming to benefit fully from the international trading system, and that it is also important for the further integration of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, into the rules-based multilateral trading system, that, in this context, acceding countries, particularly the least developed countries, need technical assistance prior to, during and in the follow-up to the accession process, within which obstacles should be addressed so as to facilitate the accession process, in order to achieve its early conclusion, and, with regard to acceding least developed countries, that the members of the World Trade Organization have agreed to implement the guidelines and the decision of 25 July 2012 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization on accession of least developed countries;

11. *Welcomes* the commitments to ratify the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization by the end of 2016, calls upon members of the World Trade Organization that have not yet done so to ratify the Agreement, notes the important role that bilateral and regional trade agreements can play in liberalizing

trade and in the development of trade rules, while recognizing the need to ensure that they are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, also notes the commitments to working to ensure that bilateral and regional trade agreements complement the multilateral trading system, and are open, transparent, inclusive and consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, and further notes that plurilateral trade agreements with broad participation that are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization can play an important role in complementing global liberalization initiatives;

12. *Emphasizes* the need to combat protectionism in all its forms and to rectify any trade-distorting measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize flexibilities consistent with their World Trade Organization commitments and obligations;

13. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

14. *Recalls* the convening of the tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Kenya for hosting the meeting;

15. *Welcomes* the convening of the eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Buenos Aires from 11 to 14 December 2017, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the meeting;

16. *Also welcomes* the elements included in the package reached at the tenth Ministerial Conference, including, inter alia, the decisions on agriculture, cotton and issues related to the least developed countries;

17. *Recalls* the importance of members of the World Trade Organization working together with a view to achieving positive outcomes at the eleventh Ministerial Conference and beyond in a balanced, inclusive and transparent way, with a sense of urgency and solidarity, and to further working to strengthen the World Trade Organization;

18. *Stresses* the need to remove food export restrictions and extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial, humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme and not to impose them in the future;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of fair, sound and robust national competition and consumer protection laws and policies and international cooperation, information exchange and capacity-building in the areas of competition policy and legislation in order to enhance the international competitiveness of developing countries;

20. *Also recognizes* the role of services, in particular infrastructure services, in diversification and structural transformation, and the importance of supporting developing countries in the establishment of policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks that contribute to resilient and quality infrastructure development;

21. *Welcomes* the launch of the "eTrade for All" initiative at the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, which seeks to provide a new approach to trade development through electronic exchanges by allowing developing countries to more easily navigate the supply of technical assistance for building capacity in e-commerce readiness and by enabling donors to obtain a clear picture of programmes that they could fund;

22. *Recognizes* that international trade and investment offers opportunities but also requires complementary actions at the national level, commits to strengthening domestic enabling environments and the implementation of sound domestic policies and reforms conducive to realizing the potential of trade for inclusive growth and sustainable development, and recognizes the need for value addition by developing countries and for further integration of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises into value chains;

23. *Stresses* the importance of women's and girls' equal rights and opportunities in political and economic decision-making and resource allocation and of removing any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, and in this regard urges Member States, the entities of the United Nations system and other international actors to take the actions required to address specific challenges to the equal and active participation of women-owned companies in international trade, including enhancing access to education and finance, increasing skills and knowledge and securing an enabling environment at all levels;

24. *Takes note* of the convening of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and welcomes its outcome documents;[5]

25. *Reiterates* the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development and in contributing to supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, taking into account the Nairobi Maafikiano, adopted at the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in particular its paragraphs 10, 12 and 14;[6]

26. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective, with particular attention to its potential contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, and to monitor and assess persistent and emerging development challenges to trade from a sustainable development perspective, in accordance with its mandate;

27. *Recognizes* the commitment to continue to address the needs of small, vulnerable economies and to favourably consider the adoption of measures that would facilitate their fuller integration into the multilateral trading system, taking into account the needs of small, vulnerable economies in all areas of negotiations, without creating a subcategory of members of the World Trade Organization, and in

[5] TD/519 and Add.1 and 2.

[6] See TD/519/Add.2.

this regard encourages progress on the implementation of the work programme on small economies, which supports their efforts towards sustainable development, as also reflected in the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;[7]

28. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the further implementation of the present resolution;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International trade and development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, unless otherwise agreed.

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[7] Resolution 69/15, annex.

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Macroeconomic policy questions: international financial system and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 17 (see A/71/461, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 23rd and 28th meetings, on 2 November and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.30 and A/C.2/71/L.58

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International financial system and development" (A/C.2/71/L.30).

3. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International financial system and development" (A/C.2/71/L.58), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Arthur Andambi (Kenya), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.30.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.58 had no programme budget implications.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbols A/71/461, A/71/461/Add.1, A/71/461/Add.2 and A/71/461/Add.3.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.23 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Ethiopia) made a statement, in the course of which he orally revised draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.58.

6. Also at its 28th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.58, as orally revised (see para. 9).

7. At the same meeting, a statement after the adoption of the draft resolution was made by the representative of the United States of America.

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.58 as orally revised, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.30 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005, 61/187 of 20 December 2006, 62/185 of 19 December 2007, 63/205 of 19 December 2008, 64/190 of 21 December 2009, 65/143 of 20 December 2010, 66/187 of 22 December 2011, 67/197 of 21 December 2012, 68/201 of 20 December 2013, 69/206 of 19 December 2014 and 70/188 of 22 December 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and to create an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[2] the Rio Declaration on Environment

[1] Resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

and Development,[3] Agenda 21,[4] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[6]

Recalling also the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,[7]

Recalling further the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[8]

Taking note of the work of the United Nations in the area of external debt sustainability and development,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[9]

Recognizing the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, and taking note of its progress report,[10]

Recalling the high-level thematic debate on the state of the world economy and finance and its impact on development, convened by the President of the General Assembly on 17 and 18 May 2012,

Recalling also the meeting of the Second Committee, held pursuant to resolution 67/197, on 13 November 2013, to discuss actions in response to the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development and prospects for restoring confidence and economic growth,

Appreciating the fact that the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016, the first Summit of the Group of 20 to take place in a developing country after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the broad participation of developing countries, and including the Chair of the Group of 77, has endorsed the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an important contribution to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and looking forward to its implementation, while urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage in an inclusive and transparent manner with other States Members of the United Nations in its work in order to

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[7] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[8] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[9] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[10] A/64/884.

ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the United Nations system,

Noting also the twentieth St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 16 to 18 June 2016,

Concerned about addressing the effects of the world financial and economic crisis so as to avoid its recurrence and continue to promote the global economic stability and underlying institutional reforms required to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable global economic growth for the benefit of all countries,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility and slowdown of global growth and trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, with many downside risks, including capital outflows from some emerging and developing economies, continued low commodity prices, high unemployment, particularly among young people, and rising private and public indebtedness in many developing countries, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining global demand,

Recognizing that, while some developing countries have been major contributors to recent global economic growth, the economic crisis has reduced their capacity to withstand further shocks, recalling the commitments made to support development and sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and reaffirming the need to work cooperatively to meet development commitments to ensure the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing also that the effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine the progress made towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

Recalling the commitment to work in solidarity on a coordinated and comprehensive global response to the effects of the consequences of the world financial and economic crisis on development and to take actions aimed at, inter alia, restoring confidence, sustaining economic growth and creating full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people and people with disabilities, and equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in its Charter, including to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends, and reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should bolster sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, sustainable development and job creation, promote financial inclusion and support efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms

and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and hunger, in particular in developing countries, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development,

Recognizing the importance of scaling up international tax cooperation, and in this regard welcoming the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the support to tax authorities of developing countries through the Addis Tax Initiative, which contribute to the mobilization of domestic resources for the Sustainable Development Goals and the curbing of illicit financial flows and tax evasion,

Recognizing the need to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations, and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings in order to improve the quality of ratings, acknowledging the efforts of the Financial Stability Board and others in this area, expressing support for establishing greater transparency requirements for evaluation standards of credit-rating agencies, and affirming the commitment to continue ongoing work on these issues,

Recognizing also the contribution of the first and second Panel of Eminent Persons of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the context of the United Nations sustainable development pillar and United Nations reform, as well as the contribution of the United Nations system to sustainable finance and investments in the Sustainable Development Goals, including through the informal expert advisory group of the President of the General Assembly at its seventieth session, and recognizing further the contribution of the independent team of advisers to the Economic and Social Council dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Acknowledging that the quota and governance reforms agreed at the International Monetary Fund in 2010 became effective in January 2016, and acknowledging also that the Executive Board of the Fund decided in November 2015 to include the renminbi as one of the five currencies that currently make up the basket of special drawing rights,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national efforts to ensure sustainable development, including strong, sustained, balanced, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] and encourages the international financial institutions to align their programmes and policies with the 2030 Agenda in accordance with their mandates;

3. *Also recognizes* the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the financial and economic

[11] A/71/312.

[12] Resolution 70/1.

crisis, and further recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote the economic recovery, to manage the consequences of volatility in global financial and commodity markets, to tackle high unemployment and indebtedness in several countries, as well as widespread fiscal strains, to reinforce the banking sector, including by increasing its transparency and accountability, to address systemic fragilities and imbalances, to reform and strengthen the international financial system and to continue and to enhance the coordination of financial and economic policies at the international level;

4. *Further recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;

5. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledging, however, that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing and recognizes the applicable requirements of the International Monetary Fund debt limits policy and/or the World Bank non-concessional borrowing policy, as well as the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and will work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

6. *Invites*, in this regard, the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating developing country financial and macroeconomic stability, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

7. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Economic and Social Council, to consider, at its annual forum on financing for development follow-up, a discussion and analysis of systemic issues and challenges, taking into account the roles of the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter, including its resolution 69/313 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the mandate of the annual forum on financing for development follow-up set out therein;

8. *Notes* that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, provides a unique and key forum for discussing international economic issues and their impact on development, and reaffirms that the United

Nations is well positioned to participate in various reform processes aimed at improving and strengthening the effective functioning of the international financial system and architecture, while recognizing that the United Nations and the international financial institutions have complementary mandates that make the coordination of their actions crucial;

9. *Resolves* to strengthen the coherence and consistency of multilateral financial, investment, trade and development policy and environment institutions and platforms and to increase cooperation between major international institutions, while respecting mandates and governance structures, and commits itself to taking better advantage of relevant United Nations forums for promoting universal and holistic coherence and international commitments to sustainable development, building on the vision of the Monterrey Consensus;

10. *Recalls* that countries must have the flexibility necessary to implement countercyclical measures and pursue tailored and targeted responses to the various types of shocks, including economic and financial crises, and calls for conditionalities to be streamlined to ensure that they are timely, tailored and targeted and that they support developing countries in the face of financial, economic and development challenges;

11. *Notes*, in this regard, the increase in resources and the improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and flexible instruments, such as the precautionary and liquidity line, the flexible credit line and the rapid financing instrument, and the refinement of the lending framework for low-income countries, while also noting that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities;

12. *Encourages*, in this regard, the multilateral development banks to continue to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries;

13. *Also encourages* multilateral development banks, within their respective mandates to continue to expand technical assistance, disseminate and share their knowledge and best practices and enhance the multiplier effect of their financing by leveraging more resources from more sources, including by mobilizing private investment, to provide innovative and integral solutions to multidimensional development problems, in particular in developing and emerging economies;

14. *Invites* the multilateral development banks and other international development banks to continue providing both concessional and non-concessional stable, long-term development finance by leveraging contributions and capital and by mobilizing resources from capital markets, and stresses that development banks should make optimal use of their resources and balance sheets, consistent with maintaining their financial integrity, and should update and develop their policies in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate;

15. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in the global development finance

architecture, and encourages enhanced regional and subregional cooperation, including through regional and subregional development banks, commercial and reserve currency arrangements and other regional and subregional initiatives;

16. *Emphasizes* the relevance of inclusion in the international financial system at all levels and the importance of considering financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

17. *Recommits* to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting and in global economic governance, recognizes the importance that the International Monetary Fund continues to be adequately resourced, and supports and reiterates its commitment to further governance reform at both the Fund and the World Bank to adapt to changes in the global economy;

18. *Notes* that the members of the International Monetary Fund are committed to concluding the fifteenth general review of quotas and to agreeing on a new quota formula as a basis for a realignment of quota shares, which will result in increased shares for dynamic economies in line with their relative positions in the world economy and hence likely in the share of emerging market and developing countries as a whole, while protecting the voice and representation of the poorest members;

19. *Acknowledges* the importance of the international financial institutions supporting, in line with their mandates, the policy space of each country, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular developing countries, and recommits to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

20. *Recognizes* that there are continued risks to financial stability, which suggests a need to continue to implement agreed reforms of the international financial and monetary system;

21. *Reaffirms* that cohesive, nationally owned sustainable development strategies, supported by integrated national financing frameworks, will be at the heart of efforts, reiterates that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, expresses respect for each country's policy space and leadership to implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, at the same time recognizes that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical, and commits to pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable

development at all levels and by all actors, and to reinvigorating the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

22. *Recommits* to a redoubling of its efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation, to reducing opportunities for tax avoidance and considering inserting anti-abuse clauses in all tax treaties, to enhancing disclosure practices and transparency in both source and destination countries, including by seeking to ensure transparency in all financial transactions between Governments and companies, with respect to relevant tax authorities, and to making sure that all companies, including multinationals, pay taxes to the Governments of the countries where economic activity occurs and value is created, in accordance with national and international laws and policies;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its existing programme of meetings and consultations with Member States on investment agreements and investment policies that promote a better understanding of issues related to international investment agreements and their development dimensions, in accordance with its mandates;

24. *Recognizes* the role of special drawing rights as an international reserve asset, acknowledges that special drawing rights allocations helped to supplement international reserves in response to the world financial and economic crisis, thus contributing to the stability of the international financial system and global economic resilience, and also recognizes the need to continue regular reviews of the role of special drawing rights, including with reference to their potential role in the international reserve system;

25. *Takes note* of the work by the Financial Stability Board on financial market reform, commits to sustaining or strengthening frameworks for macroprudential regulation and countercyclical buffers, reaffirms the commitment to hasten completion of the reform agenda on financial market regulation, including assessing and if necessary reducing the systemic risks associated with shadow banking, markets for derivatives, securities lending and repurchase agreements, and also reaffirms the commitment to addressing the risk created by "too-big-to-fail" financial institutions and to addressing cross-border elements in effective resolution of troubled, systemically important financial institutions;

26. *Reiterates* that effective, inclusive multilateral surveillance should be at the centre of crisis prevention efforts, stresses the need to continue to strengthen surveillance of the financial policies of countries, and in this regard notes the new surveillance approach of the International Monetary Fund to better integrate bilateral and multilateral surveillance, along with cross-border and cross-sectoral linkages with macroeconomic and macroprudential policies, while paying closer attention to the spillover effects from national economic and financial policies onto the global economy;

27. *Also reiterates* the need to resolve to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings;

28. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to continue to enhance the transparency of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments should maximize the use of objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on the issue, including the potential impact of the role played by private credit rating agencies on the development prospects of developing countries, in accordance with their mandates;

29. *Welcomes* efforts by new development banks to develop safeguard systems in open consultation with stakeholders on the basis of established international standards, and encourages all development banks to establish or maintain social and environmental safeguard systems, including on human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, that are transparent, effective, efficient and time-sensitive;

30. *Recognizes* the need for the international financial institutions, as appropriate, to promote gender mainstreaming in their policies and programmes, including macroeconomic, job creation and structural reform policies and programmes, in accordance with relevant national priorities and strategies;

31. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, and regional development banks, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

32. *Recommits* itself to enabling women's full and equal participation in the economy and their equal access to decision-making processes and leadership;

33. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;[13]

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to consider including in the report an analysis of options for an enhanced approach to financial stress in developing countries, to be prepared with input from the major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates, unless otherwise agreed;

35. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development", unless otherwise agreed.

[13] Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

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Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt sustainability and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 17 (see A/71/461, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 23rd and 29th meetings, on 2 November and 13 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.33 and A/C.2/71/L.60

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "External debt sustainability and development" (A/C.2/71/L.33).

3. At its 29th meeting, on 13 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "External debt sustainability and development" (A/C.2/71/L.60), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Arthur Andambi (Kenya), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.33.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.60 had no programme budget implications.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbols A/71/461, A/71/461/Add.1, A/71/461/Add.2 and A/71/461/Add.3.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.23 and A/C.2/71/SR.29.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.60 (see para. 8).

6. At the 29th meeting, the representatives of the Russian Federation and the United States of America made statements after the adoption of the draft resolution.

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.60, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.33 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

External debt sustainability and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010, 66/189 of 22 December 2011, 67/198 of 21 December 2012, 68/202 of 20 December 2013, 69/207 of 19 December 2014 and 70/190 of 20 December 2015,

Noting the work of the United Nations in this area,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and to create an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[1]

Emphasizing that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlining the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and acknowledging that debt crises are costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investment, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting the poor and vulnerable in particular,

[1] Resolution 63/303, annex.

Reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, is central to the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts, including to achieve development goals and to maintain debt sustainability, should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Reiterating that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, and emphasizing that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks, such as volatile commodity and energy prices and international capital flows, should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility and slowdown of global growth and trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, and stressing the need for continued efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand,

Recognizing the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention, management and resolution tools,

Expressing deep concern that a number of countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as middle-income countries, face challenges in servicing their debt and that, in spite of international efforts, some developing countries are again struggling with high debt burdens and are classified, in accordance with the debt sustainability assessments, as being in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries to promote their economic growth and development;

3. *Recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;

4. *Notes* the growing concerns about fast-rising corporate debt as a potential trigger of financial and debt crises;

[2] A/71/276.

5. *Stresses* the need to continue to assist developing countries in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, taking into account the challenges posed by the global economic environment and risks for debt sustainability in some developed and developing countries;

6. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Debt Sustainability Framework for Low-Income Countries, jointly developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to guide borrowing and lending decisions, looks forward to the conclusion of the ongoing review of the Framework, and encourages open and transparent consultations, with the full engagement of public and private creditors and borrowers, with a view to incorporating their concerns, where appropriate;

7. *Reiterates* that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgments about a country's debt sustainability, and, in view of the new challenges and vulnerabilities for developing countries' external debt sustainability, substantiated by the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and recent joint analyses of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, stresses the need for improved data collection and quality in areas that include domestic public debt, domestic and external private debt, as well as legal and regulatory features, such as ownership, currency denomination and jurisdiction according to national priorities;

8. *Also reiterates* that timely and comprehensive data on the level and composition of debt are necessary for, inter alia, building early warning systems aimed at limiting the impact of debt crises, calls for debtor and creditor countries to intensify their efforts to collect and release data, where appropriate, welcomes the ongoing work of relevant institutions to create a central data registry including information on debt restructuring, and calls for donors to consider increasing their support for technical cooperation programmes aimed at increasing the statistical capacity of developing countries in that regard;

9. *Stresses* the need to strengthen information-sharing and transparency to make sure that debt sustainability assessments are based on comprehensive, objective and reliable data, including an assessment of national public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of development goals, and encourages further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers;

10. *Recognizes* that the long-term sustainability of debt depends on, inter alia, economic growth, the mobilization of domestic and international resources, the export prospects of debtor countries, sustainable debt management, sound macroeconomic policies that also support job creation, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems, and hence on the creation of an enabling environment at all levels, that is conducive to development, and also recognizes the need to assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability;

11. *Notes with concern* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that were not part of the existing debt relief initiatives now have large debt burdens that may create constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, indicating a need to consider, as appropriate, stronger debt management initiatives for those countries, and stresses the

importance of medium- and long-term debt sustainability to deal with bilateral and non-Paris Club debt;

12. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy the full benefits unless all creditors, both public and private, contribute to debt workouts, as appropriate, in order to ensure the debt sustainability of those countries, and invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including through providing comparable treatment, to the extent possible, to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors;

13. *Stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, acknowledges that sound debt management initiatives can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and with the promotion of sustained economic growth and development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards achieving those objectives, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] according to their national priorities and strategies;

14. *Notes* that countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help mitigate the adverse impacts of a debt crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

15. *Acknowledges* the efforts of, and invites creditors to provide additional flexibility to, developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their national debt concerns, while taking into account their specific economic and social situations and needs;

16. *Underlines* the importance of multilateral efforts to tackle increasingly complex cross-border challenges that have serious effects on development and debt sustainability;

17. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations and of the international financial institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustained and inclusive growth, sustainable development and the external debt sustainability of developing countries, including through continued monitoring of global fina..cial flows and their implications in this regard;

18. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledges that lenders also have a

[1] Resolution 70/1.

responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, recognizes the applicable requirements of the debt limits policy of the International Monetary Fund and/or the non-concessional borrowing policy of the World Bank and the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and resolves to work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

19. *Calls* for the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encourages the private sector to cooperate in this regard, and invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Sustainable Development Goals projects, as well as debt indexation instruments;

20. *Expresses* its concern regarding the ability of non-cooperative minority bondholders to disrupt the will of the large majority of bondholders who accept a restructuring of a debt-crisis country's obligations, given the potential broader implications in other countries, notes legislative steps taken by certain countries to prevent these activities and encourage all Governments to take action, as appropriate, and furthermore, takes note of discussions in the United Nations on debt issues;

21. *Welcomes* the reforms to pari passu and collective action clauses proposed by the International Capital Market Association and endorsed by the International Monetary Fund to reduce the vulnerability of sovereigns to holdout creditors, encourages countries to take further action to include those clauses in all their bond issuance, and welcomes the continued work of the International Monetary Fund to monitor the uptake of the clauses and explore options for resolving the issue with the outstanding stock of debt without such clauses;

22. *Notes* that the United Nations, as a universal intergovernmental body, has provided a platform for both creditors and debtors to discuss ways to improve external debt sustainability, encourages the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up to continue such discussions, within its mandate, and in this regard invites continued ongoing cooperation among the international financial institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, relevant United Nations entities, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and other relevant forums, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter;

23. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their provision of concessional and grant-based financing to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and notes the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to eligible developing countries in the form of zero-interest loans;

24. *Invites* the international community to continue efforts to increase support, including financial and technical assistance, for institutional capacity-building in developing countries to enhance sustainable upstream and downstream debt management as an integral part of national development strategies, including by promoting transparent and accountable debt management systems and negotiation and renegotiation capacities and through supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors so that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

25. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue and intensify cooperation in respect of capacity-building activities in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability with a view to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

26. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

27. *Requests* the Secretary General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in his report a substantive description of current options for enhanced approaches to addressing debt sustainability in developing countries, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development", unless otherwise agreed.

United Nations A/71/462

General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 18

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 17th and 18th meetings, on 20 and 21 October. Action on the item was taken at its 23rd and 29th meetings, on 2 November and 13 December 2016. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 3 and 4 October 2016.[2]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the International Conferences on Financing for Development (A/71/311);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (A/71/534);

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.17, A/C.2/71/SR.18, A/C.2/71/SR.23 and A/C.2/71/SR.29.
[2] See A/C.2/71/SR.2, A/C.2/71/SR.3, A/C.2/71/SR.4 and A/C.2/71/SR.5.

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(c) Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the forum on financing for development follow-up, including the special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (New York, 18-20 April 2016) (A/71/88-E/2016/68);

(d) Letter dated 29 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the fortieth annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 23 September 2016 (A/71/422);

(e) Letter dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 24 September 2016 (A/71/539).

4. At the 17th meeting, on 20 October, the Director of the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement.

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.32 and A/C.2/71/L.62

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development" (A/C.2/71/L.32).

6. At its 29th meeting, on 13 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development" (A/C.2/71/L.62), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Arthur Andambi (Kenya), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.32.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.62 had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Guyana) made a statement and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.62.

9. Also at its 29th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.62, as orally corrected (see para. 14).

10. At the same meeting, the representatives of Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), South Africa, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the Group of African States), Mexico and the Russian Federation made statements after the adoption of the draft resolution.

11. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the European Union made a statement.

12. Also at the 29th meeting, in the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.62, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.32 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

13. At its 29th meeting, on 13 December, on the proposal of the Chair of the Committee the Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (A/71/534).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

14. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/192 of 22 December 2015 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and its resolution 70/299 of 22 December 2015 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2017/206 of 5 October 2016, in which the Council decided that, on an exceptional basis, without prejudice to General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013 and without setting a precedent for future discussions, the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development would convene from 22 to 25 May 2017, in New York, and would include the special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods

[1] Resolution 70/1.

institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Welcoming the launch of the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, in April 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Conferences on Financing for Development;[2]

2. *Emphasizes* the need to work towards the full and timely implementation of all the commitments included in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[3]

3. *Looks forward* to the input of the annual report of the inter-agency task force convened by the Secretary-General, which, in accordance with paragraph 133 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, must report annually on progress in implementing the financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and advise the intergovernmental follow-up thereto on progress, implementation gaps and recommendations for corrective action, while taking into consideration the national and regional dimensions;

4. *Welcomes* the 2016 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up agreed conclusions and recommendations,[4] and looks forward to staying engaged to assess progress, identify obstacles and challenges to the implementation of the financing for development outcomes and the delivery of the means of implementation, promote the sharing of lessons learned from experiences at the national and regional levels, address new and emerging topics of relevance to the implementation of this agenda as the need arises and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community in substantive intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations at the 2017 forum;

5. *Looks forward* to the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

6. *Invites* the President of the Economic and Social Council to begin early planning of the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and to consider using in 2017 the modalities that applied to the 2016 forum;

7. *Decides* that future decisions relating to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up are to be contained within the forum's intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the launch of the Global Infrastructure Forum, on 16 April 2016 in Washington, D.C., during the spring meeting of the Bretton Woods institutions, reiterates that the Forum is mandated to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps, in particular in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and

[2] A/71/311.
[3] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[4] See E/FFDF/2016/3.

African countries, and that the recommendations contained in the Chair's statement of 16 April 2016, including, inter alia, the next steps for the Forum, will serve as an input to the meetings of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, and in this regard looks forward to further briefings by the multilateral development banks on this matter;

9. *Welcomes* the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the first annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is important, inter alia, in helping to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Sustainable Development Goals, looks forward to the establishment of the online platform as part of the Mechanism, and welcomes the progress made in operationalizing the technology bank for the least developed countries;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the launch of the first annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, held on 6 and 7 June 2016 at Headquarters, whose Co-Chairs' summary[5] served as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and in this regard requests the President of the General Assembly to convene briefings by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum for member States, which shall take place no later than January 2017, on the recommendations contained in the Co-Chairs' summary with regard to the next steps for the multi-stakeholder forum;

11. *Recognizes* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, which relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development", and also decides that there will be no report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, on a one-off and exceptional basis, without setting any precedent for the annual periodicity of the report, unless otherwise agreed.

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[5] See E/HLPF/2016/6.

United Nations A/71/463

General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 19

Sustainable development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled:

"Sustainable development:

"(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

"(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"(c) Disaster risk reduction;

"(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;

"(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

"(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

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"(g) Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"(h) Harmony with Nature;

"(i) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy;

"(j) Sustainable mountain development"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 9th to 11th meetings, on 10 and 11 October, and took action on the item at its 20th, 22nd, 24th, 25th and 27th meetings, on 24 and 25 October and on 8, 18 and 30 November 2016. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 3 and 4 October.[2] An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 19
Sustainable development

Report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/71/76-E/2016/55)

Report of the Secretary-General on cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea (A/71/190)

Report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship for development (A/71/210)

Report of the Secretary-General on the oil slick on Lebanese shores (A/71/217)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora on the implementation of World Wildlife Day (A/71/215)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the global assessment of sand and dust storms (A/71/376)

Letter dated 29 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the fortieth annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 23 September 2016 (A/71/422)

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.9, A/C.2/71/SR.10, A/C.2/71/SR.11, A/C.2/71/SR.20, A/C.2/71/SR.22, A/C.2/71/SR.24, A/C.2/71/SR.25 and A/C.2/71/SR.27.

[2] See A/C.2/71/SR.2, A/C.2/71/SR.3, A/C.2/71/SR.4 and A/C.2/71/SR.5.

Letter dated 5 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Federated States of Micronesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/536)

Letter dated 4 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/537)

Letter dated 30 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 24 September 2016 (A/71/539)

Letter dated 8 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/71/607-S/2016/944)

Letter dated 4 October 2016 from the Permanent Representatives of Belarus and Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/2)

Letter dated 1 December 2016 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/6)

Item 19 (a)
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/71/212)

Report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources (A/71/260)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (A/71/320)

Letter dated 7 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/3)

Item 19 (b)
Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Secretary-General on the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations (A/71/265)

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the

Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/71/267 and A/71/267/Add.1)

Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: initial findings" (A/71/324 and A/71/324/Corr.1) and his comments thereon (A/71/324/Add.1)

Item 19 (c)
Disaster risk reduction

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (A/71/230)

Item 19 (d)
Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/71/216)

Note by the Secretariat providing an update on progress towards the development of an action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management (A/71/608)

Letter dated 30 November 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/71/5)

Item 19 (e)
Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/71/216)

Item 19 (f)
Convention on Biological Diversity

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/71/216)

Item 19 (g)
Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme on its second session (A/71/25)

Item 19 (h)
Harmony with Nature

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary report of the first virtual dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature among experts on Earth jurisprudence worldwide (A/71/266)

Item 19 (i)
Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy

Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy (A/71/220)

Item 19 (j)
Sustainable mountain development

Report of the Secretary-General on sustainable mountain development (A/71/256)

4. At its 9th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs (under item 19 and sub-items (a), (b), (h), (i) and (j), as well as sub-item (d) on behalf of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change); the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (under sub-item 19 (c)); the Deputy Regional Director of the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau of Arab States (under item 19); the Deputy Director of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (under item 19 and sub-item (g)); the Chief of the New York Liaison Office of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (under sub-item 19 (e), on behalf of the Executive Secretary); and the Senior Policy Adviser in the New York Office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (under item 19). The Committee also heard a recorded statement by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity secretariat (under sub-item (f)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.2

5. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/71/L.2).

6. At its 24th meeting, on 8 November, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Thailand made a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.2 by a recorded vote of 156 to 8, with 6 abstentions (see para. 32, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, Tonga, Vanuatu.

9. Also at the 24th meeting, the representative of Israel made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote. A statement was made after the vote by the representative of Lebanon.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.4 and A/C.2/71/L.53

10. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77

and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Combating sand and dust storms" (A/C.2/71/L.4).

11. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Combating sand and dust storms" (A/C.2/71/L.53), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Ignacio Díaz de la Guardia (Spain), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.4.

12. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53.[3] Subsequently, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Ethiopia) made a statement and orally corrected operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution.

13. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53.

14. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53, as orally corrected (see para. 32, draft resolution II).

15. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.4 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.21 and A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1

16. At the 22nd meeting, on 25 October, the representative of Lithuania, on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea" (A/C.2/71/L.21) and announced that Monaco and San Marino had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea" (A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1), submitted by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

18. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the seventh preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1.

19. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Spain) made a statement and announced that Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

[3] A/C.2/71/SR.27.

20. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

21. At the same meeting, the representative of the European Union made a statement.

22. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.21/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 32, draft resolution III).

23. Also at the 27th meeting, statements were made before the adoption of the draft resolution by the representatives of Colombia and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. A statement was made after the adoption of the draft resolution by the representative of Turkey.

D. Draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.20/Rev.1

24. At the 25th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Israel, on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Zambia, introduced and orally revised[4] a draft resolution entitled "Entrepreneurship for sustainable development" (A/C.2/71/L.20/Rev.1), and announced that Rwanda, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay had joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution. Subsequently, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar and Trinidad and Tobago also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

25. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

26. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.20/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 123 to 30, with 8 abstentions (see para. 32, draft resolution IV). The voting was as follows:[5]

[4] See A/C.2/71/SR.25.

[5] Subsequently, the Secretariat was informed by the delegation of Ghana that it had intended to vote in favour, and by the delegation of Turkey that it had intended to abstain.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia.

Against:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, China, Ecuador, Guinea, Mali, Niger, South Africa, Sri Lanka.

27. Also at the 25th meeting, the representatives of Greece and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements before the vote.

28. At the same meeting, a statement in explanation of vote was made before the vote by the representative of Algeria (on behalf of the Group of Arab States).

29. Also at the same meeting, statements were made after the vote by the representatives of Israel and Colombia.

30. At the same meeting, the observer for the State of Palestine made a statement after the vote.

E. Decision proposed by the Chair

31. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/71/76-E/2016/55) and the note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of World Wildlife Day (A/71/215).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

32. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010, 66/192 of 22 December 2011, 67/201 of 21 December 2012, 68/206 of 20 December 2013, 69/212 of 19 December 2014 and 70/194 of 22 December 2015 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[1] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195, 65/147, 66/192, 67/201, 68/206, 69/212 and 70/194,

Noting that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

Recalling that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 70/194, it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the General Assembly has yet to be implemented,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

Acknowledging also the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the Trust Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Reiterates*, for the eleventh consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;

4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,[5] with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;

5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the

[4] A/71/217.
[5] A/62/343.

destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at El-Jiyeh electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, particularly for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the Trust Fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

Draft resolution II
Combating sand and dust storms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling its resolution 70/195 of 22 December 2015 entitled "Combating sand and dust storms",

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/7 of 27 June 2014 on strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality,[3]

Noting the adoption, by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-second session, of resolution 72/7 of 19 May 2016 on regional cooperation to combat sand and dust storms in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in which it endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",

Recalling also its resolution 70/206 of 22 December 2015 on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in

[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[3] See UNEP/EA.1/10, annex I.

Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Taking note of the Regional Programme to Combat Sand and Dust Storms of the United Nations Environment Programme, and also taking note of other initiatives, including the ministerial meeting on sand and dust storms held in Nairobi on 21 February 2013 on the margins of the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, and recognizing that one of the priorities for action of the Framework is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Acknowledging that, based on the notion of hazards as defined in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[4] addressing multidimensional hazards, including those posed by sand and dust storms, contributes towards the achievement of the goals, targets and priorities for action set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,

Emphasizing the relevance of the efforts and cooperation of Member States at the regional and international levels to control and reduce the negative impacts of sand and dust storms on human settlements in vulnerable regions, taking note of the initiative of the Islamic Republic of Iran in hosting a regional meeting of environment ministers in Tehran on 29 September 2010, welcoming the holding of other meetings with the active participation of all countries, and taking note with appreciation of other ongoing initiatives by various countries to combat sand and dust storms, especially at the regional level,

Stressing the need for cooperation at the global and regional levels with a view to managing and mitigating the effects of sand and dust storms through enhancing early warning systems and the sharing of climate and weather information to forecast sand and dust storms, and affirming that resilient action to combat sand and dust storms requires a better understanding of the severe multidimensional impacts of sand and dust storms, including the deterioration of the health, well-being and livelihood of people, increased desertification and land degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and land productivity, and their impact on sustainable economic growth,

1. *Recognizes* that sand and dust storms and the unsustainable land-management practices, among other factors, that can cause or exacerbate these phenomena, including climate change, pose a serious challenge to the sustainable development of affected countries and regions, also recognizes that, in the past few years, sand and dust storms have inflicted substantial economic, social and

[4] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

environmental damage on the inhabitants of the world's arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas, especially in Africa and Asia, underscores the need to treat them and to promptly take measures to address those challenges, and decides to convene a high-level interactive dialogue of the General Assembly, during its seventy-second session, to discuss action-oriented recommendations to address the economic, social and environmental challenges of the affected countries, including ways to improve policy coordination at the global level to address those challenges in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals;[5]

2. *Acknowledges* the role of the United Nations development system in advancing international cooperation and support to combat sand and dust storms, and invites all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and all other related organizations to integrate, in their respective cooperation frameworks, operational programmes, measures and actions aimed at combating sand and dust storms so as to address this problem and contribute to the enhancement of, inter alia, capacity-building at the national level, the implementation of regional and subregional projects, the sharing of information, best practices and experiences and the boosting of technical cooperation in the affected countries and countries of origin, to improve the implementation of sustainable land management practices and to take measures to prevent and control the main factors of sand and dust storms and the development of early warning systems as tools to combat sand and dust storms in accordance with their strategic plans;

3. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional organizations and processes to continue to share best practices, experiences and technical expertise in combating sand and dust storms, including through improved implementation of sustainable land-management practices, and to promote regional cooperation in this matter;

4. *Invites* all affected Member States as well as relevant entities of the United Nations development system, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to endeavour to meet the objectives set out in the present resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and, among other factors, is a serious challenge to the sustainable development of all countries, including those affected by sand and dust storms;

6. *Commends* the commitment of the United Nations Environment Assembly to address sand and dust storms, and in this regard notes Environment Assembly resolution 2/21 of 27 May 2016 on sand and dust storms, adopted during its second session;[6]

7. *Acknowledges* the intention of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host an international event on combating sand and dust storms, with the cooperation of the

[5] See resolution 70/1.

[6] See UNEP/EA.2/19, annex I.

United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as other relevant United Nations entities, in 2017;

8. *Also acknowledges* the global assessment of sand and dust storms, prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities, including the World Meteorological Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/195 of 22 December 2015,[7] which sets out proposals for consolidated and coordinated technical and policy options for responding to sand and dust storms;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Combating sand and dust storms", unless otherwise agreed.

[7] See A/71/376.

Draft resolution III
Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/149 of 20 December 2010 and 68/208 of 20 December 2013,

Recalling also the relevant recommendations of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in June 1972,[1]

Noting the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992[2] and reaffirmed in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), adopted in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002,[3] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", adopted in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012,[4]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Recalling the efforts to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, including preventing and significantly reducing, by 2025, marine pollution of all kinds,[5]

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[6] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[7] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[8] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling relevant international and regional instruments such as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[9] the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter,[10] the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,[11] the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean,[12] the Agreement on the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Area of the South-East Pacific,[13] the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area[14] and the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic,[15]

Taking note of the ministerial declaration of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission), adopted in Copenhagen on 3 October 2013, in which the signatories recognized the need for forward-looking options for solutions and an assessment of the environmental risks posed by, inter alia, munitions dumped at sea, welcomed the 2013 report of the ad hoc expert group to update and review the existing information on dumped chemical munitions in the Baltic Sea and agreed to produce another one-off thematic assessment of the environmental risks of hazardous submerged objects, also utilizing the 2013 report on dumped chemical munitions, with the new assessment to be presented by 2018,[16]

[5] See resolution 70/1.
[6] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[8] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.
[9] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.
[10] Ibid., vol. 1046, No. 15749.
[11] Ibid., vol. 1506, No. 25974.
[12] Ibid., vol. 1102, No. 16908.
[13] Ibid., vol. 1648, No. 28325.
[14] Ibid., vol. 2099, No. 36495.
[15] Ibid., vol. 2354, No. 42279.
[16] See the findings of the Expert Group on Environmental Risks of Hazardous Submerged Objects of the Helsinki Commission, under the supervision of the Response Working Group of the Commission.

Noting the national, regional and international activities, including scientific research,[17] data collection and sharing, awareness-raising, reporting on encounters and technical advice, related to munitions dumped at sea, inter alia, in the frameworks of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic and the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean,

Emphasizing that, in the report on the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Third Review Conference), adopted at The Hague on 19 April 2013, the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction were invited to support voluntary sharing of information, raising awareness and cooperation on this issue,

Noting that Member States, international and regional organizations and civil society have undertaken activities to discuss and promote the issues related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, including international cooperation and the exchange of experiences and practical knowledge,

Noting also that the first global integrated marine assessment, also known as the World Oceans Assessment, which included a specific chapter on waste, was launched in 2015 and welcomed with appreciation by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/235 of 23 December 2015,[18]

Noting further the concerns about the potential long-term environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, including their potential impact on human health and safety and on the marine environment and resources,

Recognizing the mandates and capacities of competent United Nations system entities in the fields of marine environment monitoring, research and information-sharing, as well as pollution preparedness and response,[19]

Recognizing also the ongoing efforts aimed at awareness-raising, information-sharing and capacity-building at various levels, as well as partnership and cooperation on the issue among relevant regional and international bodies, including the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and others,[20]

[17] See, for example, the findings of the Baltic Sea research project entitled "Chemical Munitions Search and Assessment (CHEMSEA)", which is conducting research on environmental effects related to chemical munitions dumped at sea. The findings summarize all results obtained by the project.

[18] See A/70/112 and A/71/190.

[19] Competent United Nations system entities include, inter alia, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Secretariat.

[20] See A/71/190.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[21] including the views submitted and contained therein;

2. *Notes* the importance of raising awareness of the environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

3. *Invites* Member States and relevant international and regional organizations to keep under observation the issue of the waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, to continue outreach efforts to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to that issue and to cooperate, including by strengthening existing efforts within regional seas conventions and other international, regional and subregional activities related to risk assessment, monitoring, information-gathering, risk prevention and response to incidents;

4. *Encourages* voluntary sharing of information on waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea through conferences, seminars, workshops, training courses and publications aimed at the general public and industry in order to reduce related risks;

5. *Also encourages* partnerships between Governments, industry and civil society for raising awareness, reporting and monitoring of waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

6. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so to consider providing assistance and sharing expertise aimed at building capacities related to risk assessment, monitoring, information-gathering, risk prevention and response to incidents resulting from waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

7. *Encourages* Member States to share experience, good practices and information on the technologies available to treat, conserve or safely destroy the waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of Member States and relevant regional and international organizations on cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of the environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, also with a view to exploring the possibility of establishing a database[22] and options for the most appropriate institutional framework for such a database, as well as identifying the appropriate intergovernmental bodies within the United Nations system for further consideration and implementation, as appropriate, of the cooperative measures envisaged in the present resolution, building on and without duplicating existing activities, and with a view to achieving efficiency and synergies, taking into account the mandates and capacities of relevant international and regional organizations;

[21] A/71/190.

[22] Such a database could contain relevant and voluntarily shared information on, inter alia, the location of dumping sites, the type, quantity and, to the extent possible, the current condition of chemical munitions, the recorded environmental impact, best practices on risk prevention and response to incidents or accidental encounters and destruction or impact reduction technologies, including by means of data collection and management.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, prepared using responses of Member States and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as other available information, and decides to include the item entitled "Sustainable development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, unless otherwise agreed.

Draft resolution IV
Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/202 of 21 December 2012 and 69/210 of 19 December 2014,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[1] and reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[2] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all the parties thereto to fully implement the Agreement, and the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA)

[1] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.
[2] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[4] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries: Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

Pathway,[5] the Vienna Declaration and Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,[6] taking note of Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and recognizing the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries,

Recalling also the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[7] the political declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-ninth session,[8] which reviewed the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the agreed conclusions adopted at its sixtieth session, entitled "Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development", and stressing that women and girls, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship and sustainable development,

Welcoming the contribution of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as well as the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that multi-stakeholder partnership and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of government and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, including developing countries, and in this regard taking note of the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth,

Emphasizing the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, and emphasizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires the talents, creativity and entrepreneurial vigour of the entire population,

Recognizing that entrepreneurship drives economic growth by creating jobs, promoting decent work and sustainable agriculture and fostering innovation,

Recognizing also the positive contribution entrepreneurship can make in promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including women, youth, persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable people,

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[5] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[6] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[7] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 59/1, annex.

Recognizing further that entrepreneurship can help to address environmental challenges through the introduction of new climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies and resilience measures, as well as by promoting environmentally sustainable practices and consumption patterns,

Deeply concerned by continued high rates of youth unemployment, particularly in developing countries, which stifle the transformative potential of young people in sustainable development,

Reaffirming its commitment to substantially increase the number of young people and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, job creation and entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services,

Recognizing the role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization that could contribute to job creation,

Noting with concern that societal attitudes and negative preconceptions, including fear of failure, lack of opportunity and insufficient support structures, can undermine efforts to create a culture of entrepreneurship,

Recognizing the importance of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for monitoring progress in the implementation of entrepreneurship policies and their direct and indirect contribution to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship for development;[a]

2. *Reiterates* the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and in that regard emphasizes the importance of improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and foster micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and stresses the positive role that entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

3. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop policies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to entrepreneurship that includes long-term and cross-sectoral strategies;

[a] A/71/210.

4. *Acknowledges* that promoting entrepreneurship can stimulate new production processes and technology development, including the building of endogenous capacities enabling climate change mitigation and adaptation and enhancing energy efficiency, and recognizes that such a policy, which could draw on the initiatives presented in the Global Climate Action Agenda, can help Governments to meet their targets for the Paris Agreement on climate change;[2]

5. *Also acknowledges* the important role that trade plays in creating the environment for encouraging competition, innovation and opportunity for entrepreneurs, and reaffirms in this regard the critical role that a rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, and multi-stakeholder initiatives such as eTrade for All, can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development as they advance towards sustainable development;

6. *Emphasizes* that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting workers' rights;

7. *Recognizes* the remarkable role of entrepreneurship in the development of regional economic integration, which can be an important catalyst for implementing economic reforms, reducing trade barriers and decreasing trade costs;

8. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, especially in rural areas, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of services to such populations, increase access to information and promote financial literacy, particularly for women and youth and the most vulnerable people;

9. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing, including blended finance as well as impact investing, cooperatives and venture philanthropy, and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and also encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

10. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy and integrating them into national social security systems, as appropriate, including by simplifying administrative processes, for example, enabling business registration through single-window and e-registration procedures, and notes that recommendation No. 204 of the International Labour Organization can provide useful guidance on the transition from the informal to the formal economy;

11. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve

their competitiveness and increase their productive capacities, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange and transfer, innovation, capacity-building programmes and the sharing of best practices for promoting entrepreneurship;

12. *Also recognizes* that entrepreneurs can address sustainable development challenges by developing effective and simple solutions in the areas of utility services, education, health care, hunger eradication and the environment, and that social entrepreneurship, including cooperatives and social enterprises, can help to alleviate poverty and catalyse social transformation by strengthening the productive capacities of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, and producing goods and services accessible to them;

13. *Acknowledges* the value of entrepreneurship education and the dissemination of entrepreneurial thinking across all sectors, and encourages all relevant actors to increase efforts to systemically integrate entrepreneurship within the formal and informal education system, including through, inter alia, skills development, capacity-building, professional training programmes and business incubators, as well as online platforms and e-mentorships, while fostering innovation and using innovative teaching methods in line with the demands of the competitive markets and ensuring the full participation of women and girls;

14. *Encourages* all stakeholders, in particular women and young entrepreneurs, to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges, and emphasizes that local innovation and entrepreneurship systems need to be able to fully participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[10] including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that concerted efforts are needed to ensure the participation of all;

15. *Highlights* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs and those that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to increase investments in women-owned companies and businesses and to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, administration and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, in particular by financial institutions;

16. *Recognizes* that social entrepreneurship can create alternative sustainable models of production, finance and consumption to respond to social, economic and environmental issues, also recognizes the need to implement policies and programmes aimed at supporting social entrepreneurship, and encourages Governments to set up an environment conducive to social innovation;

17. *Also recognizes* that harnessing entrepreneurial talents among young people is vital for increasing productive capacities, developing new forms of

[10] Resolution 70/1.

entrepreneurship focused on information and communications technology, big data, digitalization, smart cities and creating start-ups, generating full and productive employment and inclusive economic growth, and encourages Member States to integrate youth entrepreneurship strategies and innovative programmes into their national policies, create a nurturing environment for the full realization of the rights and capabilities of young people, and increase investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through impact investment favouring the poorest and most vulnerable, entrepreneurial education, youth capacity-building and information and communications technology;

18. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis and without discrimination on the basis of disability, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, and notes that further efforts are needed to increase awareness of the ability of persons with disabilities to innovate and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through entrepreneurship;

19. *Stresses* the need to highlight the value of entrepreneurship and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including, inter alia, the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by promoting policies, initiatives and programmes that support the development of an enabling entrepreneurial ecosystem, including by raising public awareness, reinforcing local support networks and employing specific measures aimed at removing negative preconceptions;

20. *Also stresses* the importance of indicators that can be used to formulate targeted entrepreneurship policies and measure their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard encourages Member States, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to further identify and develop indicators at the national and regional levels as appropriate, and to continue contributing to the work of the Statistical Commission on the global indicator framework;

21. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

22. *Acknowledges* that the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and stresses the need for Member States to develop policies and, where appropriate, strengthen national and international policy regulatory frameworks and their coherence, harnessing the potential of science, technology and innovation, closing technology gaps and scaling up capacity-building at all levels to better align private sector incentives with public goals, including incentivizing the private sector to adopt sustainable practices, and foster long-term quality investment, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility, as reflected in the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact, environmental, social and governance performance standards and greater transparency in supply chains to avoid forced and child labour abuse;

23. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, as appropriate, and invites the United Nations system, and in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue to provide support to and assist Member States, at their request, to identify, formulate, implement and assess coherent policy measures on entrepreneurship and the promotion of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

24. *Encourages* countries to consider establishing or strengthening national centres of excellence in entrepreneurship and similar bodies, and also encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices;

25. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to the contribution of entrepreneurship to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include the item entitled "Sustainable development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, unless otherwise agreed.

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Agenda item 19 (a)

Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Glauco **Seoane** (Peru)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/71/463, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 20th, 27th and 28th meetings, on 24 October, 30 November and 8 December 2016. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.12 and A/C.2/71/L.12/Rev.1

2. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Tajikistan, on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 11 parts, under the symbols A/71/463, A/71/463/Add.1, A/71/463/Add.2, A/71/463/Add.3, A/71/463/Add.4, A/71/463/Add.5, A/71/463/Add.6, A/71/463/Add.7, A/71/463/Add.8, A/71/463/Add.9 and A/71/463/Add.10.

[1] A/C.2/71/SR.20, A/C.2/71/SR.27 and A/C.2/71/SR.28.

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Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development', 2018-2028" (A/C.2/71/L.12) and announced that Brunei Darussalam, San Marino and Trinidad and Tobago, had joined as sponsors of the draft resolution.[2]

3. At its 27th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development', 2018-2028" (A/C.2/71/L.12/Rev.1), submitted by Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and

[2] A/C.2/71/SR.20

Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of Tajikistan made a statement and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.12/Rev.1. Subsequently, Barbados, Botswana, Bulgaria, Iceland, Mali and the Russian Federation joined as sponsors of the draft resolution, as orally corrected.[3]

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.12/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at the 27th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.12/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/71/L.19 and A/C.2/71/L.19/Rev.1

7. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/71/L.19).

8. At its 28th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/71/L.19/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of A/C.2/71/L.19.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.19/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

10. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/71/L.19/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 113 to 42, with 8 abstentions (see para. 13, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:[4]

In favour

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands,

[3] A/C.2/71/SR.27.

[4] Subsequently, the delegation of Paraguay informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.

Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining

Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey.

11. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Slovakia (on behalf of the European Union), Norway, Japan, the United States of America and Canada (also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand).

12. Also after the vote, statements were made by the representative of Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and by the facilitator of the draft resolution (Mexico).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/193 of 22 December 1992 on the observance of World Day for Water, 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Sanitation, 65/154 of 20 December 2010, by which it proclaimed 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation, and 67/204 of 21 December 2012 on the implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013,

Recalling also its resolutions 64/198 of 21 December 2009 on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and 69/215 of 19 December 2014, in which it welcomed activities undertaken for the observance of the Decade and encouraged relevant parties to continue to take steps to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals,

Recalling further its resolutions 68/157 of 18 December 2013 on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation and 70/169 of 17 December 2015 on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, including resolutions 24/18 of 27 September 2013[1] and 27/7 of 25 September 2014,[2]

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and 1989/84 of 24 May 1989 on guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Recalling also its resolutions 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming the sustainable development goals and targets, including those related to water resources, contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[2] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. IV.

Development, and determined to achieve the goal of ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all and other related goals and targets,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[3] which highlighted the commitment to the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015,

Reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[4] is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that the full implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is critical for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, that water, energy, food security and nutrition are linked and that water is indispensable for human development, health and well-being and a vital element of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant goals in the social, environmental and economic fields,

Deeply concerned that lack of access to a safe drinking water source, basic sanitation and sound hygiene, water-related disasters, water scarcity and water pollution will be further exacerbated by urbanization, population growth, desertification, drought and other extreme weather events and climate change, as well as by the lack of capacity to ensure integrated water resource management,

Concerned with the slow progress in advocating for, and addressing existing gaps in, gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women that hamper the achievement of sustainable development goals and targets,

Concerned also that many water-related ecosystems are threatened by poor management and unsustainable development and face increased uncertainty and risks due to climate change and other factors,

Recalling that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[5]

Acknowledging the importance of deepening cooperation and partnership at all levels for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation,

Recognizing that water-related issues, including relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets, need to be better reflected in the agendas of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Noting national, regional and global efforts and partnership initiatives to implement the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, the numerous recommendations from global and regional water and water-related

[3] Resolution 66/288, annex.
[4] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[5] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

events and the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting also the establishment of the High-level Panel on Water by the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank, and looking forward to its work,

Noting further the *United Nations World Water Development Report*, a joint project of United Nations agencies and entities, in particular the edition entitled *Water for a Sustainable World*, the report of the annual international conference of UN-Water held in Zaragoza, Spain, in 2015, on the theme "Water and sustainable development: from vision to action", UN-Water advice on means of implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and the work of the Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation,

Recognizing the important role of relevant initiatives and multi-stakeholder partnerships in building political support and encouraging investment in water and sanitation,

Noting the outcomes and the Ministerial Declaration of the seventh World Water Forum, held in Daegu and Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea, from 12 to 17 April 2015,

Noting also the outcomes of the high-level interactive dialogue at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, held on 30 March 2015,

Noting further the Declaration of the High-level International Conference on the Implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, held in Dushanbe on 9 and 10 June 2015,[6] and the call for action of the high-level symposium on the theme "Sustainable Development Goal 6 and targets: ensuring that no one is left behind in access to water and sanitation", held in Dushanbe on 9 and 10 August 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources;[7]

2. *Welcomes* the activities related to water undertaken by Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, for the observance of the International Year of Sanitation, 2008, the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013, and the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015;

3. *Proclaims* the period from 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", to commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2018, and terminate on World Water Day, 22 March 2028;

4. *Decides* that the objectives of the Decade should be a greater focus on the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives and on the

[6] See A/C.2/70/5, annex.
[7] A/71/260.

implementation and promotion of related programmes and projects, as well as on the furtherance of cooperation and partnership at all levels in order to help to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[*]

5. *Highlights* the importance of promoting efficient water usage at all levels, taking into account the water, food, energy, environment nexus, including in the implementation of national development programmes;

6. *Decides* that these objectives should be pursued, inter alia, by improving knowledge generation and dissemination, facilitating access to knowledge and exchange of good practices, generating new information relevant to the water-related Sustainable Development Goals, pursuing advocacy, networking and promoting partnership and action by different actors to implement the water-related Goals and targets in coordination with existing initiatives and strengthening communication actions at various levels for the implementation of the water-related Goals;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the participation and full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, young people, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, to take appropriate steps, within existing resources, to plan and organize the activities of the Decade at the global, regional and country levels, taking into account the outcomes of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and other relevant United Nations structures, as well as the High-level Panel on Water;

9. *Emphasizes* the need for further steps to accelerate and sustain action towards the mobilization of means of implementation, and encourages the development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and for the stepping up of international cooperation and collaboration in science, research and innovation for the sustainable development of water resources at the local, national and regional levels, including through public-private and multi-stakeholder partnerships, and on the basis of common interest and mutual benefit;

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to promote the mobilization of financial resources and technical assistance and to strengthen the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other entities of the United Nations system, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84, to facilitate the implementation of the Decade in cooperation with Governments and other relevant stakeholders;

[*] Resolution 70/1.

12. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, during the seventy-first session, a working-level dialogue to discuss improving the integration and coordination of the work of the United Nations on the water-related goals and targets under its sustainable development pillar, with a particular emphasis on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while preserving its integrated and indivisible nature, and a subsequent working-level dialogue to take stock of the discussions at the first dialogue and to exchange views on the relevance of possible next steps, and in this regard:

(a) *Decides* that the dialogues shall be ad hoc, informal, inclusive, open-ended and interactive, with the participation of countries, relevant regional and international organizations, relevant United Nations system entities, UN-Water and other relevant stakeholders;

(b) *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to appoint two co-moderators for the dialogues, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, who will also prepare the informal summary of the dialogues;

(c) *Also invites* the President of the General Assembly to prepare a concept note for the dialogues, in collaboration with the co-moderators, taking into consideration relevant work and processes and avoiding duplication;

13. *Decides*, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84, to review the implementation of the Decade at its seventy-seventh session, and in this regard also decides to consider, at its seventy-third session, the future arrangements for a midterm comprehensive review of the Decade;

14. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant partners, including the private sector, to contribute to the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028, building on the momentum gained during the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, in order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Draft resolution II
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 64/236 of 24 December 2009, 65/152 of 20 December 2010, 66/197 of 22 December 2011, 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/203 of 21 December 2012, 68/210 of 20 December 2013, 68/309 of 10 September 2014, 68/310 of 15 September 2014, 69/108 of 8 December 2014, 69/214 of 19 December 2014 and 70/201 of 22 December 2015 and all other relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[5] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[6] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[7] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[8] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[9] the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[10] the Beijing Declaration

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[9] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[10] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

and Platform for Action[11] and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[12]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration[13] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[14] adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action,

Recalling also the Political Declaration adopted by the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Declaration,

Recalling further the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024[15] and the Vienna Declaration,[16]

Recalling the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[17]

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[11] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[12] Resolution 68/6.

[13] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[14] Ibid., chap. II.

[15] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[16] Ibid., annex I.

[17] Resolution 69/15, annex.

Reaffirming the importance of supporting the implementation of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Reaffirming also the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[18] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

Recalling the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[19] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[20] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Emphasizing the importance of oceans for sustainable development, as embodied in Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and various decisions taken by the former Commission on Sustainable Development, and welcoming in this regard its decision, in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016, to convene a high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of United Nations conferences, the United Nations Millennium Declaration[21] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[22]

Reaffirming the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing

[18] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.
[19] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[20] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[21] Resolution 55/2.
[22] Resolution 70/1.

the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching and essential objectives for sustainable development,

Noting that the advancement of sustainable consumption and production cuts across the three dimensions of sustainable development in an integrated manner,

Welcoming and recalling the commitment in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to making fundamental changes in the way that societies produce and consume goods and services, stressing that Governments, international organizations, the business sector and other non-State actors and individuals must contribute to changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns, including through the mobilization, from all sources, of financial and technical assistance to strengthen developing countries' scientific, technological and innovative capacities to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, encouraging the further implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns,[21] and noting the importance of all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries,

Reaffirming the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, as well as the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality and women's empowerment, and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[9] and urges its full implementation;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[22] and for the realization of sustainable development;

3. *Recognizes* in this regard that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds upon elements from the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", inter alia: the establishment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the format and organizational arrangements of which were later established by its resolution 67/290; a strengthened Economic and Social Council, as later defined in its resolution 68/1; the process that led to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, as later defined in its resolutions 68/309 and 70/1; the strengthening of the science-policy interface, including in the form of a global sustainable development report; and the process that led to the adoption of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the

[21] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;[24]

5. *Stresses* the importance of overcoming silos and seeking innovative and coordinated approaches in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development — economic, social and environmental — at the global, regional and national levels, and requests the United Nations to further mainstream and integrate the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system;

6. *Affirms* the contributions of the ongoing efforts and commitments towards the full implementation of Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[5] including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and stresses the importance of their continued implementation in the pursuit of sustainable development;

7. *Urges* the speedy and effective implementation and the effective follow-up and review of the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[16] and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and reaffirms that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities;

8. *Emphasizes* that regional and subregional organizations have a role to play in promoting sustainable development in their respective regions by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance sustainable development;

9. *Notes* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, among other commitments on sustainable consumption and production, adopted the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns[23] as a tool for action on sustainable consumption and production, and in this regard recognizes the commitment by the United Nations Environment Assembly to accelerate its implementation, including through relevant voluntary actions by Member States;

10. *Takes note* of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/8 of 27 May 2016 on sustainable consumption and production;[25]

11. *Decides* to designate the Economic and Social Council to receive reports from the Board and the secretariat of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, and affirms that due consideration should continue to be given to sustainable consumption and production at the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;

[24] A/71/212.

[25] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system,[26] reiterates the call of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the further mainstreaming of the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made, including for the consideration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

13. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in the report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the unfinished business of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development", unless otherwise agreed.

[26] A/71/76-E/2016/55.